

Applicant: P. Bonutti
Application No.: 10/755,996
Examiner: D. Reip

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) An implantable device for changing the spatial relationship between first and second bones, the device comprising a body configured and dimensioned for insertion into a joint located between the first and second bones and coated with a bone growth promoting material, wherein the bone growth promoting material includes a bone morphogenic protein and wherein the body includes bone-contacting first and second major surfaces, a side surface therebetween, and a first channel extending through the first major surface and side surface.
2. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 1 wherein the bone growth promoting material includes demineralized bone.
3. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 2 wherein the demineralized bone is a powder.
4. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the bone growth promoting material includes collagen.
5. (Original) The device of claim 4 wherein the collagen is in the form of apatite compositions with collagen.
6. (Original) The device of claim 4 wherein the bone growth promoting material includes demineralized bone.
7. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the demineralized bone is a powder.
8. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the body has an open cellular structure to provide cavities in which bone can grow through.

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9. (Original) The device of claim 8 wherein the body is made of a biocompatible metallic material.

10. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the body is made of tantalum.

11. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 9 wherein the body is made of stainless steel.

12. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 8 wherein the body includes a compartment for holding bone growth inducing material.

13. (Original) The device of claim 8 wherein at least some of the cavities contain a bone growth promoting material.

14. (Currently amended) The device of claim 1 further including fastener means for fixedly connecting the body to at least one of the first bone and second bones, the fastener means disposed in the first channel.

15. (Currently amended) The device of claim 14 wherein the fastener means includes at least one screw.

16-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) The device of claim 1 ~~+8~~ wherein at least a portion of the side surface has a configuration corresponding to at least a section of an outer side surface of one of the first and second bones.

20. (New) The device of claim 1 further including a second channel extending through the second major surface and the side surface.

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21. (New) The device of claim 20 further including fastener means for fixedly connecting the body to the first and second bones, the fastener means disposed in the first and second channels.

22. (New) The device of claim 21 wherein the fastener means includes two screws.